IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Winthrop Childers

Examiner: Saliard, Shannon S.

Serial No.:

10/645,185

Art Unit: 2176

Filed:

08/21/2003

Docket No.: 200208971-1

Title:

PROJECTOR RESERVATION SYSTEM AND METHOD

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

I declare as follows:

- I am the inventor of the subject patent application filed on August, 21, 2003.
 At the time the patent application was filed, I was an employee of Hewlett-Packard
 Company.
- 2. This Declaration is submitted to establish prior invention of the subject matter of the present patent application in the United States.
- 3. Prior to the effective date of the reference dated October 1, 2002 (the filing date of the U.S. Application No. US 2004/0064355 to Dorenbosch et al.) I conceived of my invention and diligently worked toward constructively reducing my invention to practice by filing U.S. Application No. 10/645, 185 on August 21, 2003.
- 4. Prior to the effective date of the reference dated April 3, 2003 (the filing date of the U.S. Application No. US 2004/0039723 to Lee et al.) I conceived of my invention and diligently worked toward constructively reducing my invention to practice by filing U.S. Application No. 10/645, 185 on August 21, 2003.
- Exhibit A (6 pages) includes a copy of HP Invention Disclosure No.
 200208971-1 I submitted to the HP Legal Department for consideration prior to the effective date of both the Dorenbosch and Lee references.
- 6. Following my conception prior to October 1, 2002, I worked diligently with the Patent Attorney, Leland Wiesner, Esq. to prepare the patent application filed on Auguest 21, 2003 thereby constructively reducing the invention to practice. During this time period, the patent attorney prepared one or more drafts of the application for my comments. With my

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comments, the patent attorney revised one or more portions of the application, claims and/or figures to accommodate my suggestions.

- 7. At the time of preparing Exhibit A prior to October 1, 2002, I had conceived of a projector reservation system including a reservation system server capable of communicating over a network with a client that fulfills projector and venue reservation requests received via the network and coordinates a transport and a storage of presentation data received via the network and a set of one or more projector systems capable of communicating with the reservation system server that downloads the presentation data for display according to the projector and venue reservation requests.
- 8. I also had conceived of a method of requesting a projector and a presentation venue reservation that included selecting the presentation venue having one or more available projectors in accordance with a venue selection criteria for a presentation and associated presentation data, selecting a projector according to a projector selection criteria for the presentation and the one or more available projectors at the venue, selecting a level of security for storing the presentation data to protect the presentation data from unauthorized access and uploading the presentation data to a reservation system server via a network.
- 9. Additionally, I had conceived of a method of coordinating a projector and presentation venue reservation including receiving a projector and presentation venue reservation request, downloading presentation data from a projector reservation client, ensuring availability of presentation software compatible with the presentation data and commencing a presentation including presentation data.
- 10. I further conceived of an apparatus for a projector reservation system, including a means for selecting a presentation venue according to a venue selection criteria for a presentation, means for selecting a projector according to a projector selection criteria for the presentation and one or more projectors available at the venue, means for selecting a level of security for presentation data storage to protect presentation data associated with the presentation from unauthorized access and means for uploading presentation data to a reservation system server via the network.
- 11. I also conceived of an apparatus for coordinating a projector reservation system and presentation, including a means for receiving presentation data from a projector reservation client, means for ensuring availability of proper presentation software, means for

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receiving a password, decryption key, or biometric verification for accessing presentation data and means for commencing a presentation of the presentation data.

- 12. I also conceived of a computer program product for controlling a projector reservation system, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to select a presentation venue, select a projector, coordinate uploading, security, and storage of presentation data, coordinate delivery of presentation data to the projector reservation system at the time and date specified by a reservation and coordinate a presentation of the presentation data.
- 13. All acts set forth herein and/or relied upon for the purpose of establishing invention prior to October 1, 2002 were carried out in the United States.
- 14. I declare that all statements made herein are of my own knowledge and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Winthrop Childers

Date & 47/07

Exhibit A: HP Invention Disclosure



Disclosure:No: 2002089

PD No. 200208971 Date Received

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tormation contained in this document is MP CC aire to the HP Legal Department às soon as pr ionsitted to the Government. ers without prior authorization. Submit this patent application is distherized, propared OF IS HP CONFEDENTIAL and may not be dis



Title Reservation system that incorporates projector file handling system

Abstract A web-based conference room reservation and projection system includes functionally for enabling the preparation or setting up of a presentation on a digital projector. In particular, the system accepts digital presentation content that is to be viewed on the projector during the presentation. The reservation system transfers the content to a projector system that includes the software and hardware layers to allow a user of the system to simply show up at the appointed time and to run the presentation without having to carry envilling to the room except perhaps an encryption key. The system includes a feature that verifies proper software compatibility prior to confirmation of a reservation. The system also includes varying levels of security depending on the confidentiality of the presentation.

Projects Etendue Products NONE

Attachments

Conference_Room_System.doc - 9/12/02 12:02PM - Word file disclosure (Uploaded by Winthrop D Childers)

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Problems Solvad

Conference room system provides a way of scheduling the room and prosenting content in a seamless manner.

Prior Solutions

Web-based conference room scheduling systems are in use. The user interface for such systems sometimes includes an indication of what kind of presentation devices are available in the conference room to be scheduled, such as a white board, overhead projector, etc. Often when a room is scheduled, the user needs to call in advance to verify that the proper projection system is present. For slide or video presentations user needs to carry the content along. In the case of an overhead projector, this means carrying a stack of transparencies that need to be printed out at great expense. In the case of a digital projector, the user typically needs to carry a bulky laptop. Often times the user has trouble getting the laptop to work with the digital projector that is in the conference room.

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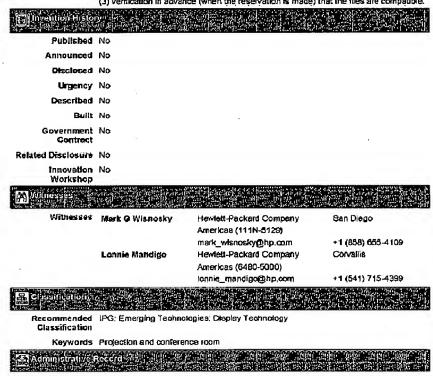
Recently there has been discussion of using projectors that incorporate some degree of computer functionality. This might enable the user of a conference room projector carry along just the media containing the presentation, such as a CD-ROM. However, this has the disadventage that the software present on the projector system may not be compatible with the content.

Description See attached file.

Advantages (over current reservation systems)

The main advantages are convenience and avoiding big problems-

- (1) elimination of the need to take bulky slides or laptops to a presentation.
- (2) controllable security of information (via varying levels of encryption)
- (3) verification in advance (when the reservation is made) that the files are compatible.



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Date Submitted September 12, 2002 12:05PM

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Title: Predictive PROJECTOR RESERVATION SYSTEM AND METHOD

Multifunctional Web-Based Reservation and Projection System for a Conference Room

Abstract: A web-based conference room reservation and projection system includes functionality for enabling the preparation or setting up of a presentation on a digital projector. In particular, the system accepts digital presentation content that is to be viewed on the projector during the presentation. The reservation system transfers the content to a projector system that includes the software and hardware layers to allow a user of the system to simply show up at the appointed time and to run the presentation without having to carry anything to the room except perhaps an encryption key. The system includes a feature that verifies proper software compatibility prior to confirmation of a reservation. The system also includes varying levels of security depending on the confidentiality of the presentation.

<u>Problem Solved:</u> Conference room system provides a way of scheduling the room and presenting content in a searnless manner.

Background: Web-based conference room scheduling systems are in use. The user interface for such systems sometimes includes an indication of what kind of presentation devices are available in the conference room to be scheduled, such as a white board, overhead projector, etc. Often when a room is scheduled, the user needs to call in advance to verify that the proper projection system is present. For slide or video presentations user needs to carry the content along. In the case of an overhead projector, this means carrying a stack of transparencies that need to be printed out at great expense. In the case of a digital projector, the user typically needs to carry a bulky laptop. Often times the user has trouble getting the laptop to work with the digital projector that is in the conference room.

Recently there has been discussion of using projectors that incorporate some degree of computer functionality. This might enable the usor of a conference room projector to carry along just the media containing the presentation, such as a CD-ROM. However, this has the disadvantage that the software present on the projector system may not be compatible with the content.

<u>Description</u>: The present invention is depicted by a following flow chart. The user utilizes a web-based system to schedule a conference room. The conference room system includes a server and one or more projectors associated with one or more conference rooms. In a preferred embodiment, each projector is a fixed digital projector built into the ceiling of the conference room.

The user first selects a conference room via a web-based interface. The web based interface then offers the user an interface for downloading the software. The user selects from a level and type of security from a set of options. In one embodiment, the user encrypts the file and sends it to the server. The user also provides an indication of the type of content. For example, the content may be powerpoint slides utilizing a certain version of powerpoint. The system runs a check to verify that the proper software driver is present in the conference system to run the content. If not, then the system updates the

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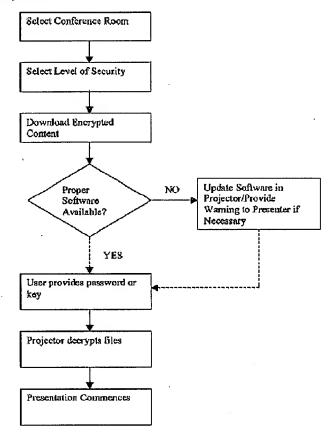
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software. The system preferably determines a means of updating the software prior to final acceptance of the reservation.

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When the user arrives at the conference room, only a means of decrypting the content is required. This can be in the form of a password or an encryption key, depending on the level of security selected.



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The figure below illustrates a preferred embodiment of the overall system. The conference room system includes a reservation system (server) and likely a number of projector systems coupled (only one shown).

The projector system is likely a fixed projector that includes an internal PC that communicates with the reservation system to allow the reservation system to verify that the proper software is installed on the projector system. If it is determined that the proper software is not installed on the projector, the reservation system automatically takes action to install the proper version of the software. For example, a presentation may require the latest version of visio. The projector in question may not have been updated yet. In response to determining this discrepancy, the reservation system determines whether its internal application integration manager has the proper software update. If not, then a warning is provided to the user of the reservation system and personnel supporting the reservation system are notified to enable them to acquire the proper software in advance of the reservation.

In another embodiment, the user can upload the software into the reservation system in the event that the conference room system does not have the proper software.

